

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering stems. Photographer Don Wood, Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens north of Mbruya

Common name

Furry Nightshade

Family

Solanaceae

Where found

Rainforest and wet **forest**, preferring roadsides and recently logged sites. Around Batemans Bay and Nelligen.

Notes

Shrub to 1 m high, **rhizomatous**. Fruit fleshy. Branches densely **stellate** hairy (needs a hand lens or a macro app on your phone/tablet to see). Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 4–7 cm long, 23–35 mm wide, stellate hairy, upper surface grey green, lower surface white or yellowish, tips blunt or pointed, bases sometimes **cordate**. Flowers mauve to whitish, 15–25 mm in diameter, almost pentagonal, with 5 lobes, in 1–3-flowered clusters. Fruit bright red, 6–7 mm in diameter, largely to partly covered by the **calyx** lobes. Flowers most of the year.

Separated from *Solanum densevestitum*. That species is now considered to grow only in Qld. (Australian Plant Names Index accessed 3 May 2021)

Description based on that in Bean, A.R. (2004), The taxonomy and ecology of *Solanum* subg. *Leptostemonum* (Dunal) Bitter (Solanaceae) in Queensland and far north-eastern New South Wales, Australia. *Austrobaileya* 6(4): 674-676, Fig. 13, Map 1

Author: Betty Wood.



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